

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) Besides Central Institute of Medicinal and Aromatic Plants, Lucknow, some of the other Agencies involved in the research and propogation of medicinal plants in these areas are G.B. Pant University of Agriculture and Technology, Pant Nagar, Uttar Pradesh State Forest Department, Pharmaceutical Laboratory, Ranikhet, Herbal Research Institute, Gopeshwar, Indian Institute of Drug Research of Ayurveda, Ranikhet.

### Study on Weather Pattern

6484. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been invited to the news-item captioned "Changing weather patterns into the cold" appearing in the 'Economic Times', New Delhi dated March 14, 1992;

(b) if so, whether any study has been or is being conducted to analyse climatic changes in the wake of increased volcanic activity and earlier eruptions and the impact of their fallouts on the greenhouse effect; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Fine ash and other particles thrown up during volcanic eruptions tend to create a minor cooling effect, whereas the greenhouse gases from such eruptions have a minor warming effect. The overall effect on global climate would be negligible.

### Petro-Chemicals Industry In Rajasthan

6485. SHRIMATIVASUNDHARARAJE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the applications received from the State Government of Rajasthan or from private individual as on December 31, 1991 to set up petro-chemicals and allied industries in Rajasthan;

(b) the steps taken to expedite the approval; and

(c) the stage at which the matter stands present?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (DR. CHINTA MOHAN): (a) to (c). Applications for industrial licence for the manufacture of various petro-chemicals, including those of projects proposed to be located in Rajasthan, are received from time to time. These are examined and decided upon on techno-economic considerations, in line with existing policies, as a continuous process. However, most of the items in the petro-chemical sector have been de-licensed in the New Industrial Policy announced in July, 1991 and in such cases entrepreneurs are free to set up industry in the States, including Rajasthan.

### Grants of Patents

6486. SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the basis on which patents are granted;

(b) whether the Government propose to adopt the standard first to file rule rather than first to invent; and